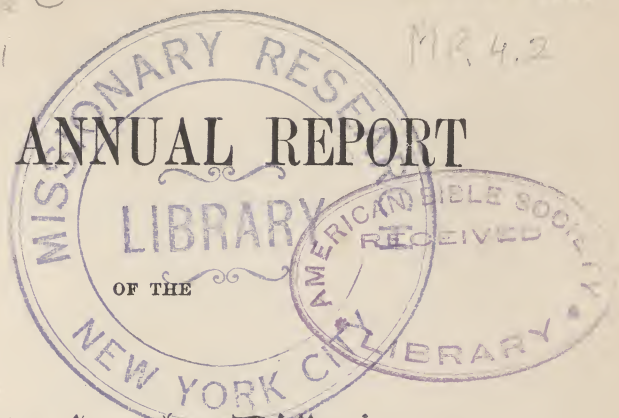


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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT



Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General Knowledge among the Chinese.

For Year ending October 31. 1888.



SHANGHAI:

PRINTED AT THE SOCIETY'S OFFICE,
3, MING HONG AND SEWARD ROADS, HONGKEW.

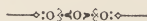
MDCCCLXXXVIII.

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Religious & Tract Soc.

Office-Bearers for Year 1887-88



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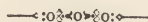
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Report.

FIRST Reports are not always what we could wish them to be. They often have to speak of difficulties which could not have been foreseen, as well as successes achieved. And this is our position.

Owing to the change in the Constitution of the Parent Society, and the consequent changes necessary here, time was expended, and so we have virtually lost a year's home Subscriptions. Now, however, the Home Society have expressed their entire satisfaction with the basis on which we stand, and the methods of operation on which we have determined, and have resumed work on our behalf. And in their Annual Report for 1887, a copy of which has been placed in the hands of all our Directors, they express their resolution of supporting us as they originally intended.

While we did not receive what we expected from the Parent Society, the LADIES' AUXILIARIES never slackened their efforts. The West of Scotland Ladies' Auxiliary have sent us large supplies of material as blank Scripture Histories, blank Calendars, Cards, Serials, Pictures, etc., etc., which have been issued as books and serials and otherwise as appears in the Depositary's Report. The working up of this material and the value of the time which our Superintendent devotes to the interests of the West of Scotland Ladies' Auxiliary is fully compensated for by the sale of their publications, the whole proceeds of which now go to the credit of this Society. The Edinburgh Ladies' Society also has remitted the sum of £260 with an order to publish a handsome illustrated edition of the "Peep of Day"—the proceeds of sale of which will all come to us, except such as shall be distributed in the course of Christian work among the families, according to the desire of the Ladies at home. We wish

to record our high appreciation of the value of such aid and our assurance that we shall always do our best to promote the objects the Ladies have in view.

Many friends in China have also subscribed liberally; and others in Singapore and Penang—through the kind efforts of our Treasurer—have sent us important donations, for which we desire to convey, to them and to all, our meed of most hearty thanks.

Work done.—Thus though disappointed somewhat in our receipts from home we have been able to do not a little work. We have already issued 27 parts of Rev. E. Faber's work on "Civilization," in all 27,000; published Bacon's *Novum Organum*, translated and adapted by the Rev. Wm. Muirhead; reprinted new editions of the Scripture Histories; and have continued the publication of the illustrated serial for the households, as well as a variety of calendars, cards, etc.

We have also in the press, both in Wunli and Mandarin, the *Christian Girl's Classic* and the *Life of our Lord* in verse for families.

Mainly owing to the absence of Dr. Y. J. Allen in America we have not yet commenced our chief periodical; but have been preparing articles and otherwise providing for its issue. Now that he has returned we have resolved to commence it at once, and hope to have the first number out after the Chinese New Year. We have also made arrangements, to start the *Boy's Own* in its full form, carefully illustrated, which, with the chromo-illustrated serial for the households will complete our set of magazines.

Remunerative Work.—Supplementary to our own proper work we have been able to do work which yields a certain revenue. We have been continuously occupied with the printing of the Old and New Testaments for the British and Foreign Bible Society and American Bible Society; and also been employed by friends in many parts of China to publish books of their own and their reports of work done in Hospitals and other ways, and so a goodly number of such books has passed through our hands.

We have also been engaged as the publishers of the *Messenger*, a newspaper which is growing in influence and circulation.

In order to perform the work just indicated we have had to buy more type; and as each new book, as a rule, contains fresh characters, this expense must continue. We have also found it necessary to buy two additional presses from home which are giving great satisfaction.

Gratuitous Work.—This department has not been neglected by us, and although we wish we could have done more yet we have carried through several things. We have distributed 2000 vols., illustrated, on *Natural Theology*, at the Triennial examinations held in Sept., viz: 500 at Peking, 500 at Nanking, 500 at Moukden the capital of Manchuria; 250 at Hangchow, capital of Cheh-kiang, and 250 at Tsi-nan foo, the capital of Shantung. We also made a grant of 10,000 portions of Rev. E. Faber's *Civilization*, by request, to the Missionaries at Nanking, which were likewise distributed to the students; and we have in harmony with the instructions from the West of Scotland Ladies' Auxiliary given Scripture Histories, Chromo Calendars, and illustrated Gospels, cards, &c., to Missionaries and others who agreed to present them to influential families in the interior.

Agencies.—The Indian Christian Vernacular Society have appointed us their agents for China; and supplied us with an assortment of their publications which will increase our influence and usefulness in various ways. We also keep for sale works of the Religious Tract Society of London, Messrs. T. Nelson and Sons, Edinburgh, and the School and Text Book Series Committee.

We are happy to say that we are making headway; and feel we have a large amount of sympathy in China, as might be shown by extracts from numerous letters were it necessary.

Funds.—Our Balance sheet shews an increased surplus at credit of the Society after making some provision for depreciation of our Plant, and consequent on the liberality of our friends the contributions to Special Fund raised at close of last year have enabled us to reduce the debt to \$1800, a sum which we hope to wipe off so soon as the promised aid from the Parent Society comes to hand. This favourable result during the past year has been attained through our having had ample work under contracts from the Bible Societies and of such work we have still on hand sufficient to make us hopeful of a similar result during year ending 31st October, 1889. Our financial prospects thereafter, when it is to be expected that our Presses will be more entirely devoted to the preparation of our own publications, will depend greatly on the support we get from friends in China in shape of money and assistance in spreading our periodicals. We therefore earnestly invite continued subscriptions from friends out here, and we hope the anticipations of the speakers at the Annual

Meeting of the Parent Society as to raising a yearly sum of £600 to help us may also be fully realized.

The Future.—Now that the preliminaries have all been settled, and our preparations almost completed, we hope fully to carry out the programme which we presented to the Directors when we commenced operations. As already intimated we intend to do our best to start and carry on the periodical for the more intelligent classes in China with care and vigour. We find the need for such a periodical is becoming more and more imperative every day. We know from private sources as well as the public press that the Chinese are becoming increasingly conscious of their power; and we shall soon have to face a new China, whose intellect expanded and sharpened by Western education, whose sense of importance heightened by a knowledge of their vast and varied resources, and whose combative propensities strengthened by the successes they have won and are winning in competition with our countrymen—shall test all our powers to the utmost.

They have already taken up the pen, and also the pencil against us: for their phillipics are often profusely illustrated and not inaptly. They are certain to use these weapons more and more. They are keen observers, trenchant writers, and skilled and clever at lampooning. They know well all the springs of popular passion and how to rouse and direct the feeling of the people against us. We must meet them. Our security and our advancement in China depend upon our setting ourselves right with the people. We therefore emphatically need an organ to expound our Civilization and our Faith and defend them.

Wider considerations also point to the same conclusion. We are face to face with the greatest non-Christian nation in the World, rising rapidly into full consciousness of itself, and its rights, and its powers, as yet uninstructed and undeveloped, liable to all the outbursts of unreasoning action which partial knowledge engenders. Foreign interests are also growing in China year by year, though as yet we have hardly broken the shell; and so the field for enterprise of every description is almost boundless. Further there are certain problems before us of a delicate and difficult character,—municipal, social, commercial, political, and religious—which require thoughtful and careful treatment. Satisfactory progress and the solution of these

problems depend entirely on harmony between the Chinese and ourselves, and this can only be promoted by the diffusion of sound knowledge of ourselves and our aims. We therefore respectfully submit that the work of this and kindred societies lies at the very root of our own continued success: and the highest good of China.



Special Subscriptions

*To meet deficit on working, \$573.43, and increase of Plant,
\$718.70, during year ending 31st October, 1887.*

"A Friend,"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Tls 200.00	\$276.24
C. Thorne, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	69.07
H. E. Hobson, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	69.06
J. J. Keswick, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	69.03
John Macgregor, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	68.96
F. C. Bishop, Esq.,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	69.06
									<hr/>
									621.42
<i>From Penang—per W. T. Smellie, Esq. :—</i>									
Chinese Friends,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$320=Tls240.00 @72.07	330.12
<i>From Singapore—per A. Gentle, Esq., and Low Cheng Koon :—</i>									
Chinese Friends,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$330=Tls238.42 \$323.46	
ditto,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10= 10.00	333.46
									<hr/>
John B. Bishop, Esq., Edinburgh, £5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.21
A Friend,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.33
									<hr/>
									<u>\$1321.54</u>



Ordinary Subscriptions.

A Friend, - - - - -	Tls100.00	\$137.79
Ewen Cameron, Esq., - - - - -	100.00	138.13
J. J. Keswick, Esq., - - - - -	100.00	138.04
Dr. Focke, - - - - -	25.00	34.51
F. C. Bishop, Esq., - - - - -	25.00	34.53
A. G. Wood, Esq., - - - - -	20.00	27.20
E. McKean, Esq., - - - - -	25.00	34.00
W. V. Drummond, Esq., - - - - -	25.00	34.19
General Kennedy, - - - - -	20.00	27.20
Rev. H. C. Hodges, - - - - -	20.00	27.20
N. A. Siebs, Esq., - - - - -	20.00	27.20
W. R. Carles, Esq., - - - - -	20.00	27.20
A. R. Purkill, Esq., - - - - -	20.00	27.20
C. Vincent Smith, Esq., - - - - -	20.00	27.61
R. M. Campbell, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	13.61
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J. K. Morrison, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	13.61
H. H. Joseph, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	13.61
Andrew Burman, Esq., - - - - -		10.00
His Ex. J. H. Ferguson, - - - - -	20.00	27.52
John Prentice, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	13.81
P. V. Grant, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	13.81
Well Wisher, - - - - -		10.00
Th. Schnell, Esq., - - - - -		10.00
Paul H. King, Esq., - - - - -		25.00
C. Myers, Esq., - - - - -		10.00
Rev. Mr. Eyres, - - - - -	2.00	2.73
Walter C. Ward, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	13.60
Rev. J. D. Valentine, - - - - -		10.00

Per C. S. Addis, Esq., Peking:—

W. A. P. Martin, LL.D., - - - - -	\$20.00	
J. W. Jamieson, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	
W. McC. Osborne, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	
W. Hancock, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	
H. Ex. A. M. Coumany, - - - - -	10.00	
P. Kierulff, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	
S. M. Russell, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	
C. S. Addis, Esq., - - - - -	10.00	
E. Denby, Esq., - - - - -	3-00	93.00

A Friend, towards gratuitously distributing 2000 vols
of Natural Theology at Triennial Examinations,

140.00

\$1189.50

Income and Expenditure from 1st November, 1887, to 31st October, 1888.

To Balance from last year, ...	...	\$66.19	By payments in reduction of debt—to Dr. Williamson, \$1398.86	
„ Subscriptions—			„ Rent, Taxes, etc.—	
Special as per List, ...	...	\$1321.54	12 months' rent at 77s 48.75, ...	\$796.78
Ordinary Do. ...	...	1189.50	Less refunded by Dr. Williamson, 260.31	
From Glasgow Society—being pay-			Taxes, Gas, Water, Fire Insurance, ...	\$536.47
ment o/a Mr. McIntosh, repaid to			Salaries and Wages—	181.60
this Society by him, £12 16 8 ...	82.68	2593.72	Superintendent's Salary, ...	718.07
„ Monies received for Work, etc.—			Allowance for Passage Money to	\$1225.95
Accounts, etc., due Oct. 31, 1887, per			Mrs. McIntosh, £37 10s., ...	241.62
last Balance, ...	...	\$1906.73	Wages, ...	1467.10
Collected during this year, ...	1837.68	\$1837.68	<i>Mem.</i> —Superintendent's Salary next	2934.67
Leaving outstanding, 69.05			year will be £215, about \$1400	
Monies earned and collected			Payments for Stock—	
during this year, ...\$3439.34	3439.34		For Foreign Books and Bibles, ...	\$401.70
Accounts outstanding			„ 2000 vols, „Natural Theology,”	140.00
due at Oct. 31, 1888, 412.81	412.81		„ Paper, Ink, etc., etc., ...	1217.48
Work done, not deliv-			Payments for Machinery and Type—	1759.18
ered at Oct. 31, 1888, 326.98	326.98		Two Presses—and sundry type and	
furniture, ...	...	\$5277.02	Less one Press—not yet paid for, ...	\$1112.53
\$4179.13	\$808.84		Freights, Postages, and Duties, ...	616.11
<i>Mem.</i> —Besides above work it is estimated that the			Sundries—Telegrams, advertising, etc., ...	193.09
Society has expended in labour and material			Cash Balance-In Chartered Mercantile Bank, \$146.89	149.18
gratuitously, \$488.52.			„ Superintendent's hands, 20.88	167.77
				\$7936.93

BALANCE SHEET, 31st OCTOBER 1888.

Amount owing Rev. Dr. Williamson,	...	\$1800.00
" " for new printing Press,	...	496.42
		<u>\$2296.42</u>
Balance, surplus,	...	3830.39

Mem.—There is also a sum of *£*1s.1288.70 in Bank at credit of the Society, being proceeds of *£*260, supplied by the Edinburgh Ladies' Auxiliary for printing an edition of "Peep of day."

\$6126.81

Value of Press and Plant received from "The Book and Tract Society of China," less 10 %	\$340.10	\$3060.98
Value of Type, etc., added 1887, "	62.77	564.98
" Presses, etc., " 1888, " 5 %	56.33	1070.41
		<u>\$459.20</u>
		\$4696.37

Mem.—Amongst Plant there are stereos, valued as metal only, which, if used again—as they are likely to be—are worth \$500 to the Society.

Value of Paper, Cards, etc.,	...	...	145.00
Value of Publications on hand—			
Foreign Books and Bibles,	...	...	\$160.00
Society's own Publications,	...	...	148.83
			<u>308.83</u>
Amount of Outstanding Accounts,	...	...	\$481.86
Value of Work done on jobs not yet completed,	326.98		808.84
Cash on hand and in Bank,	...	...	167.77
			<u>\$6126.81</u>

Audited and found correct.

ANDREW BURMAN.

F. C. BISHOP,
Hony. Treasurer.

PENANG SUBSCRIBERS.

Koh Seang Tat	...	...	...	...	...	...	\$20.00
Cheah Chen Eok,	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.00
Chia Seh Soon,	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.00
Khoo Oon Keong,	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.00
Chong Moh & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00
Ban Jeo Who & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00
Gan Kim Swee,	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.00
Ban Joo Hin,	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00
Ban Chin Hong,	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.00
							\$320.00

SINGAPORE SUBSCRIBERS.

Keng Yong Bros.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	\$50.00
Khoo Tsong Poh,	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00
Tan Kim Tiau and Sons,	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00
Koh San Tee,	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00
Kim Cheng & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00
Cheang Hong Lim,	...	...	...	...	...	...	30.00
Kim Seng & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	50.00
Wee Bin & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.00
Keng Cheow & Co.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.00
Loh Kee Seng,	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.00
Lim Kong Wan & Son,	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.00
Low Cheng Koon,	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.00
							\$340.00

CONSTITUTION,
LIST OF OFFICE-BEARERS,
PROSPECTUS,
AND
TREASURER'S REPORT
OF THE
Society for the Diffusion of Christian and
General Knowledge among the Chinese
LATE
CHINESE BOOK AND TRACT SOCIETY.



同文書會 SHANGHAI. 墨海書局

MDCCCLXXXVII.

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HONORARY EDITOR.—REV. ERNST FABER.

HONORARY SECRETARY.—REV. A. WILLIAMSON, LL.D.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General Knowledge among the Chinese.

LATE

CHINESE BOOK & TRACT SOCIETY.*

— :0840760:—

ARTICLE I.—The Society shall be named in English the
“SOCIETY FOR THE DIFFUSION OF CHRISTIAN AND GENERAL
KNOWLEDGE AMONG THE CHINESE ;” and in the Chinese language :

同文書會

ARTICLE II. *Object.*—The object of the Society shall be,—(1)
to take over the Printing Press and other Property as a free gift
generously offered by the original promoters—the Book and Tract
Society of China; and (2) to continue the publication and circula-
tion of literature based on Christian principles throughout China,
her Colonies, Dependencies, and wherever Chinamen are found—
especially Periodical literature adapted for all classes as the resources
of the Society may permit.

ARTICLE III. *Mode of Operation.*—These objects shall be carried
out first, and especially, by the composition and issue of original
books, articles, and tracts, written with a Christian aim, but from a
Chinese standpoint, with a knowledge of native modes of thought,
and adapted to instruct and elevate the people; Second, by a
periodical of a comparatively high character adapted to the more
intelligent classes in China; Third, a periodical for the women and

* *Note.*—The Society was first established as Chinese Book and Tract
Society in Glasgow in December 1884.

Formed into the Society for the Diffusion of Christian and General
Knowledge among the Chinese in 1887; changed into Christian Literature
Society in 1905.

In 1894 the Chinese name was changed into 廣學會 Ed. 1910.

children; Fourth, one for the School boys; Fifth, by reprinting such works, large or small, as may commend themselves to the Board; and Sixth, by the establishment of a Central Dépôt at Shanghai, with agencies, as far as possible, in the Capital and chief cities of the 18 Provinces, and also at the other emporiums of commerce in the East, as Hongkong, Yokohama, Singapore, Penang, and Batavia.

ARTICLE IV. *Membership.*—All subscriptions shall be purely voluntary, and all persons may become members on being proposed, seconded, and carried by a majority at one or other of the stated Meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE V. The Society shall be managed by a Board of Directors of different religious denominations, resident in different parts of China, who shall have power to add to their number, fill up vacancies, appoint an Executive Committee, and in general to manage all the affairs of the Society.

ARTICLE VI. *Powers of the Board.*—The Board shall have power to elect its own office-bearers, determine its own Meetings, appoint Trustees (who may or may not be members of the Society) in whom any property of the Society may be vested; also to devolve upon Sub-Committees, Local Associations, or individuals, whether members or not, such charge of specific portions of the Society's operations as may seem expedient or necessary.

The Board also shall have power to call special Meetings of the Society, take such steps as may appear best to diffuse information regarding the proceedings of the Society, secure pecuniary contributions, defray out of the funds of the Society all expenses connected with the work, and in general take whatever measures, consistent with the constitution, as shall seem likely to promote the objects for which the Society is organized.

ARTICLE VII. *Retiring Members of Board.*—One-third of the Directors shall retire each year, according to alphabetical rotation, at the Annual General Meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election.

ARTICLE VIII. *Quorum.*—One-third of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum: and the Chairman shall have a deliberative as well as casting vote.

ARTICLE IX. *Annual General Meeting.*—A General Meeting of the members of the Society shall be held during the second week

of December, every year, at such place as the Directors may appoint, when a statement of the income and expenditure shall be submitted, together with a report of the Society's operations during the preceding year.

ARTICLE X. The Executive Committee shall meet monthly, and it shall have power to frame its own By-Laws; but one special duty shall be that it take care the liabilities of the Society shall never exceed half the value of the Press and Plant.

ARTICLE XI. *Alteration of Constitution*—The preceding articles of Constitution can be altered only by a vote of two-thirds of the members present or duly represented at the Annual General Meetings, and that only in the event of three months' previous notice having been duly circulated among the members of the Society.



PROSPECTUS.



THE objects which this Society has in view and methods of operation are detailed in the Constitution which accompanies this. It may, however, be well to note that our aim summarised, is two-fold: namely, (1) to provide books of a comparatively high order for the more intelligent classes in China; and (2), books illustrated by chromos for the families. We wish in no way to interfere with the action of any Bible Societies or Tract Societies, or the School and Text Book Series Committee, or any private enterprise already existing; we seek to follow out a line of work which is distinct, and which has hitherto not been attempted on any scale proportionate to its importance.

SCRIPTURES and Tracts have their place and their unalienable importance; and ever will. School and Text Books are also indispensable for Seminaries and Colleges; but they are of their nature technical, and adapted to be explained by a teacher. Purely scientific books, again, are necessarily full of new terms and formulae, and so beyond the ability of ordinary readers. Our object, therefore, is to reach the general public, both literary and commercial, and while we give them true science, endeavour at the same time to set it forth in an attractive manner fitted to their present capacity for understanding it. And our reasons for this new effort are:—

SUCH objects are in keeping with the genius of the people. The great distinguishing feature of the Chinese from the very earliest times has been their attachment to literature, and the honour they have set upon it. Their hero has been not the warrior, nor even the statesman, but the scholar. This national sentiment has been fruitful of many beneficent results. Amongst others it has led them, during all their eras, to pay very great attention to education; and this, in its turn, has produced a large proportion of readers, a high regard for books, one uniform written language, and a system of competitive examinations which until recent years was unparalleled in any part of the world.

THESE features have struck every observer who has landed on their shores, and led all who sought to influence the empire, to seek to avail themselves of the press. But the question has always been in regard to suitable books. The difficulties of the language, the peculiarities of Chinese modes of thought and expression, and their tremendous literature, which required to be mastered less or more before efficient books could be produced, called a halt.

IN the opening days of modern intercourse missionaries felt it to be their first duty to give them the Scriptures in their own tongue, and epitomes of Divine Truth in different forms. But it has been increasingly felt by all, of late years, that something more was needed. Accordingly, not a few have been led to compose works on Geography, History, Astronomy, and the various branches of science, and also to attempt periodical literature in its different branches.

SMALL editions of these works have been issued and they have been prized in proportion as they became known. This has encouraged us to proceed in that direction; but larger funds are needed to spread such books even to a moderate extent in this wide empire. And this is well worth the effort of all interested in China: for it is absolutely clear that we can never open up the country satisfactorily until we open the minds of the people.

THE opposition which is offered to Western views, plans, and efforts of all kinds mercantile, political, and religious, is almost entirely due to ignorance. And this is true both as regards local officials, the gentry or literati, the censorate, and even of some of the high officials in Peking. It is therefore of the very highest importance that this ignorance be dispelled, and knowledge diffused through all classes of the people.

MOREOVER we have found that in cases where high officials at Peking and enlightened Mandarins were prepared to accede to foreign proposals, the local literati interfered, and effectually blocked all proceedings. But these literati abound in every part of the empire, and are held in the highest esteem; in fact are the very soul of the empire and virtually rule it. It is therefore manifest that if we would influence China at all as a nation, we must begin with them; and also that it is only in proportion as we command their respect that affairs will move smoothly in China, especially in the higher and larger departments.

AGAIN these students of the present day will in the course of a few years fill all the mandarinates in the empire, and all posts of authority in the neighbouring countries, as rulers, consuls, and others; be the high ministers of state who will negotiate treaties and deal with the affairs of foreign nations, represent the interests of China at foreign courts; and in short, affect the happiness and prosperity of not only the 360,000,000 of their own country but the interests of foreign merchants and nations. While therefore we would not overlook the masses of the people—manifestly the rising literary men demand our most careful attention—the more so as they are not a reading “caste;” but spring from and are related to families high and low, in every quarter of the land, and are the oracles of their neighbourhoods.

BUT these men are those most amenable to our books. We can visit them at their homes: we can meet them at their periodic examinations. They respect scholars; they prize books; they possess many of the characteristics of genuine students. They are in a measure open to reason, are prepared to consider and discuss whatever is placed before them; and are particularly quick to see the advantage of much of our knowledge and suggestions. These remarks are especially true of the younger men, many of whom now evince a very marked desire for new knowledge. Their hostility to us, from their stand point, is patriotic. Convince them of their mistake and they often become our friends. We have repeatedly found that a gift of some of our best books has disarmed their opposition; and we seriously believe that by no other plan can we so powerfully conduce to the allaying of their prejudices and the winning of the nation as the wide distribution of such books as we contemplate.

ONE thing which has greatly encouraged us is that the government of the empire now view matters in a great measure as we do. They have step by step come to see the importance of a knowledge of foreign countries and science, not only for themselves but also for their people; and they have during the past spring officially announced their decision to add certain questions on foreign subjects to the examination papers, and to grant honours and substantial prizes to such as distinguish themselves. They have further shown their determination to carry out this object by establishing five new Colleges at Tientsin for instruction in military, naval, engineering, electrical and medical

science; and are at present also building a large seminary fitted to receive 300 students in which young men may receive the elements of the English language, and the first principles of science prior to entering these Colleges.

THESE are perhaps the most important and far reaching measures which have, as yet, been promulgated by those in power. The extending of the examination questions touches the empire in all its extent, and reaches every town and hamlet and study in the land, and it will ultimately lead every student, schoolmaster, and scholar to procure and master books on western subjects. It therefore behoves us to have suitable books ready for them, adapted to their capacities and calculated to guide them in the paths of knowledge, official probity, and moral rectitude.

THE way now seems to be open. We have some books ready; there are others in preparation; we have freedom of travel in all directions. We have friends in many of the provincial capitals and chief cities who will be delighted to help us. We have post, steamer, and courier at our command. The power therefore seems in our own hands. What we lack chiefly is funds.

THE revolution which books and periodicals have wrought in our own Western countries greatly encourage us to proceed; for in point of ability to understand our books and facilities of intercommunication, China is almost as fully prepared now as Europe was fifty years ago; and thus we may reasonably hope that by a judicious selection of subjects, careful preparation, striking and suitable illustrations, and wise measures for circulation, we may as thoroughly penetrate the empire, and as effectually change the opinions and action of China as the Press has done during the past half century in Britain, Germany, and America.

IT seems to us therefore that there could hardly be an association of more importance to China, and to all interested in her welfare, than the one we now commend to your consideration.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

THE Accounts to 31st October, 1887, shew a loss on the year's working of \$573.43 which is almost covered by subscriptions already promised to the Special Fund, established for the purpose of meeting such deficits. During the year no assistance in shape of money has come from the parent Society. The gratuitous work done is estimated to have cost \$822.75.

The outstanding accounts at date of Balance amount to \$1,192.98 of which about \$800 have been collected. The value of work on hand not completed at same date is \$693.80. From these figures it will be seen that a capital of at least \$1,000 is required to work the business. Up till now Dr. Williamson has been supplying this capital and is willing to continue doing so for a time. Friends are making a special effort to raise funds during ensuing year to provide the capital.

The sum due to Dr. Williamson arises partly from the increase in plant during the year to extent of \$718.70 and it is suggested that the Special Fund be added to by additional subscriptions to an extent to meet this.

At the Directors' meeting in November, Dr. Williamson mentioned that he had two sums on hand of £30 and £112. 10s. As these sums represent donations to special objects connected with the Society rather than to the Society itself they have not been brought into the accounts. The latter sum has been reduced to the extent of about one-half by liquidating an account due to this Society, for work connected with these objects.

No budget has been prepared for the coming year but the accounts now submitted indicate all normal expenditure and prospects of increasing business raise the expectation that no deficit will result on the working.

For the special work of the Society an amount of about £600 is expected during the year from the parent Society and it is also proposed to reserve for it the local annual subscriptions.

F. C. BISHOP,
Hony. Treasurer.

SHANGHAI, 3rd December, 1887.

Statement of Accounts for Year ending 31st October, 1887.

To Cash received for Chinese and English Printing, etc., - - - - -	\$2210.70	By Expenditure for wages, gas, taxes, insurance, paper and type, etc., - - -	\$3926.44
Outstanding Accounts—		Less paper & type, etc., on hand,	718.70
Special Mission Account, - - -	\$144.07		\$3207.74
Ladies' Auxiliary Society, - - -	337.30		
Sundries, - - - - -	711.56	“ Rent, - - - - -	\$739.68
		“ Less proportion from Dr. Williamson, 8 months, - - - - -	246.56
“ Value, as at 31st October, 1887, of work done on jobs not yet completed, - - -	1192.93		493.12
“ Commission due, - - - - -	693.80	Mem.—Next year's rent is \$554 per year.	
“ To deficit on year's working, - - -	20.00	“ Mr. M'Intosh's salary, £165, @ 3/4, - - -	990.00
	573.43	“ Mem.—Next year's salary is £190.	
	<u>\$4690.86</u>		<u>\$4690.86</u>

REV. DR. WILLIAMSON—CASH ACCOUNT.

To Payments by Dr. Williamson—		By Cash received for printing, etc., - - -	\$2210.70
For wages, taxes, type, etc., - - -	\$3926.44	“ Balance due Dr. Williamson, - - -	3198.86
“ Rent, - - - - -	493.12		
“ Salary, - - - - -	990.00		
	<u>\$5409.56</u>		
	<u>\$5409.56</u>		<u>\$5409.56</u>

BALANCE SHEET, 31st OCTOBER, 1887.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount owing Rev. Dr. Williamson, -	- \$3198.86	Value of Press and Plant received as free gift from "The Book and Tract Society of China," less 5% depreciation for one year,-	\$3401.08
Balance, surplus, -	- 2827.65	Value of additional Type and Paper, etc., on hand at 31st Oct., 1887, -	718.70
		Amount of Outstanding Accounts, -	1192.93
		Commission Outstanding, -	20.00
		Value of work done on jobs not yet completed, -	693.80
			\$6026.51
DEPENDENCIES.		DEPENDENCIES.	
Sum due to Mr. McIntosh for Passage money £37 10s., @ 3/4 -	- \$225.00	Subscriptions to Special Fund to date,-	Tls. 400.00
Account due to Messrs. Aird and Coghill for Invoice of goods received after 31st October, 1887, £27 13s, say=	- 180.00	ditto - for coming year, -	350.00

SHANGHAI, 3rd. Dec., 1887.

F. C. BISHOP,
Hony. Treasurer.

Approximate List of Chinese Publications

Issued from the

S. D. C. G. K. PRESS,

From November 1, 1887, to October 31, 1888.

	Copies.
Uncoloured Calendars, - - - - -	13,000
Coloured* „ - - - - -	860
Scripture Histories,* (Lives of our Lord, Moses, Joseph, David, Solomon, Daniel, Ruth, Esther,) - - -	1,900
Birds and Animals of the Bible,* - - - - -	150
Illustrated Gospels,* - - - - -	3,500
Little Ones' Own, *(孩提畫報) - - - - -	6,000
C. S. M. Illustrated Leaflets (訓蒙畫報) - - -	35,000
Civilization, (Small foreign paper edition,) - - -	19,000
Natural Theology, - - - - -	2,250
Miscellaneous Works for friends,—for Church, School, Family, and general distribution, - - - - -	9,500
Miscellaneous Smaller publications—including S. S. Lesson Sheets, Portions of Scripture, Tracts, etc., etc., - -	23,000
Total,† - - -	<u>114,160</u>

Memo.—Of those marked * the Pictures were supplied by the West of Scotland Ladies' Auxiliary.

† In addition to the above a large number of the Society's Publications have been sold in the Shop and in and about the native city, to natives and visitors; also small traders passing through Shanghai have voluntarily been the means of carrying the Society's publications into regions little visited by Missionaries or their colporteurs.

+✂ APPENDIX. ✂+

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Directors and Members of the S.D.C.G.K. was held at the house of Ewen Cameron, Esq., on the 13th December, 1888. There were present: Dr. Focke, Dr. Allen, Messrs. W. V. Drummond, J. G. Purdon, C. Jantzen, W. R. Carles, J. W. Maclellan, E. M'Kean, General Kennedy, H. B. Morse, C. Thorne, C. V. Smith, E. Cameron, F. C. Bishop, Ven. Archdeacon Moule, Revs. W. Muirhead, Dr. Faber, Dr. Williamson, and Mr. G. McIntosh. Notes of apology were received from Rev. H. C. Hodges and M. Boyd Bredon, Esq.

The Vice-President, Dr. Focke, took the chair and called upon Rev. Wm. Muirhead to open the meeting with prayer. Dr. Focke then said the Report and Accounts had been in the hands of the Directors for some days, and might be held as read, which was agreed to, after which he called upon Mr. Thorne to propose the adoption of the first resolution, viz., That the Reports and Accounts be adopted. Ven. Archdeacon Moule seconded the Resolution which was carried unanimously.

General Kennedy proposed the Second Resolution, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to the Executive Committee for their labours during the past year. This was seconded by J. G. Purdon, Esq., and carried unanimously.

W. R. Carles, Esq., proposed the Third Resolution, viz., Thanks to the Subscribers for their liberal contributions, and that the annual Subscribers be enrolled as members of the Society. This was seconded by J. W. Maclellan, Esq., and carried unanimously.

E. Cameron, Esq., proposed the Fourth Resolution, That the following Directors who retire by rotation, be re-elected, namely: Rev. Dr. Allen, Messrs. F. C. Bishop, E. Cameron, R. M. Campbell, W. R. Carles, G. Detring, W. V. Drummond, Revs. Dr. Faber, V. C. Hart; and that the following gentlemen be elected to fill the place of the Directors who have left: Messrs. J. G. Purdon, C. Cromie, Carl Jantzen, and H. B. Morse; also that the Executive Committee for the ensuing year be: Dr. Focke, F. C. Bishop, Esq., Dr. Y. J. Allen, Rev. W. Muirhead, Cornelius Thorne, Esq., and Rev. Dr. Williamson, with power to add to their number. Mr. M'Kean seconded the proposal which was carried *nem con.*

Mr. Thorne moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Cameron on his retirement from the chairmanship of the Executive Committee previous to his returning home, saying he had been most assiduous in his attendance and careful in conducting the affairs of the Society. Mr. C. Vincent Smith seconded the motion which was carried by acclamation.

At the call of the chairman Dr. Allen made a statement regarding the scope and character of the periodical now to be issued under his editorship, which was accepted by the Directors with satisfaction. There being no other business the meeting then separated.